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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. LYNCH).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

May 24, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable STEPHEN F. LYNCH to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord God of sacred revelation, the poetic and pathetic story of Job raises for every generation the mysterious question of human suffering: Why do bad things happen to good people?

In our own day, Lord, we hear Job in the African cry of the poor, in the conflicted mind of the wounded Marine and in the silence of the abused child.

Make the Members of Congress true comforters of Job, who not only talk about suffering but are in anguish to relieve his fate. Lift them from the illusion that virtue is directly linked to public notoriety and comparative wealth. Rather, by the infusion of faith, Lord, plunge them into a deeper solidarity with the war-torn poor and the heroic innocents so that Job's blessing may truly be their own:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb and naked I shall return. The Lord has given and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord forever."

Amen

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LAHOOD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LAHOOD led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment bills and a concurrent resolution of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 414. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 60 Calle McKinley, West in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, as the "Miguel Angel Garcia Mendez Post Office Building".

H.R. 437. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 West Eisenhower Street in Rio Grande City, Texas, as the "Lino Perez, Jr. Post Office".

H.R. 625. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4230 Maine Avenue in Baldwin Park, California, as the "Atanacio Haro-Marin Post Office".

H.R. 988. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5757 Tilton Avenue in Riverside, California, as the "Lieutenant Todd Jason Bryant Post Office".

H.R. 1402. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 320 South Lecanto Highway in Lecanto, Florida, as the "Sergeant Dennis J. Flanagan Lecanto Post Office Building".

H. Con. Res. 128. Concurrent resolution authorizing the printing of a commemorative document in memory of the late President of the United States, Gerald Rudolph Ford.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1352. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 East Locust Street in Fairbury, Illinois, as the "Dr. Francis Townsend Post Office Building".

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to ten 1-minute per side.

WAR IN IRAQ

(Mr. SESTAK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SESTAK. Mr. Speaker, I have served this Nation in combat in Afghanistan and Iraq. The first was a just war; the second was a tragic misadventure.

After 31 years of military service, I ran for this office. I have never deviated from believing that a date certain to redeploy from Iraq is the only strategy which can change the incentives for the Iraqis, the Iranians and Syria, to change their behavior and to work for a non-failed state in Iraq. But I have run the Navy \$67-billion-a-year warfare program. And I understand that money is only so fungible, and we will run out.

There is a greater good than me, than my office, than my caucus, than this Congress, and that is those that still wear the cloth of this Nation in Iraq that we Americans sent to fight for us.

I cannot vote to place their security between us and someone we hope might blink, because I do believe, however, after this, that I have great faith that there are those Americans on both

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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